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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone  
SUBJECT Consumers' Cooperatives

DATE:  
INFO. 31 October 1946  
DIST. 18 April 1947

25X1A

PAGES 2  
SUPPLEMENT 25X1X

1. In the Russian Zone there are 247 cooperatives with 5584 sales stores. These cooperatives are gaining control of means of production. As of 31 October 1946 they owned 235 bakeries and 50 slaughter houses; since that time these numbers have increased rapidly. As of the same date, the cooperatives also had 45 other concerns, including mills, distilleries, match factories, textile factories, soap factories, and artisans' shops. Of the total number of ration card holders in the Russian Zone, the following percentages buy at the consumers' cooperatives:

Land Saxony	28.7%
Saxony Anhalt	28.7%
Thuringia	28.1%
Mecklenburg	22.6%
Brandenburg	20.4%
Berlin (Russian Sector)	14.4%
All of Russian Zone	25.3%

2. The cooperatives are financed by the members in the form of shares with an average face value of 30-50 RM. Half the value of the share has to be paid on joining. On 31 October 1946 total shares throughout the Russian Zone amounted to 50,100,000 RM, of which 53.1% were paid up. They were distributed as follows:

	Face Value	Paid Up
Land Saxony	16,800,000 RM	39.5%
Saxony Anhalt	8,900,000 RM	65.5%
Thuringia	8,900,000 RM	50.4%
Mecklenburg	2,600,000 RM	65.8%
Brandenburg	7,200,000 RM	70.0%
Berlin (Russian Sector)	5,300,000 RM	50.2%

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3. Transactions of the consumers' cooperatives in the Russian Zone in the month of October 1946 amounted to:

Land Saxony	26,200,000 RM
Saxony Anhalt	18,400,000 RM
Thuringia	10,300,000 RM
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	5,900,000 RM
Brandenburg	17,400,000 RM
Berlin (Russian Sector)	<u>2,100,000 RM</u>
Total	85,300,000 RM

Of this total, 27,600,000 RM was accounted for by spirits and tobacco.

4. The business of the consumers' cooperatives in Land Saxony in the 3rd Quarter 1946 consisted of the following:

Textiles	5.3%
Household Goods	4.1%
Shoes	1.7%
Spirits and Tobacco	36.2%
Marmalade	5.0%
Sugar	8.8%
Nährmittel	4.9%
Meat	3.4%
Fats	5.3%
Bread and Other Bakery Products	8.3%
Miscellaneous	17.0%

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